

Friis, John

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**From:** Nancy L. Scimeca [nlssh@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 15, 2009 4:05 PM  
**To:** Friis, John  
**Attachments:** Raised Bill #6666, Section 7

**Attached you will find a "signed letter"** requesting support for Raised Bill #6666, Section 7. Just in case you are unable to open the signed copy, I have also included an unsigned copy below. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email or call me at (203) 858-7454.

Thank you for your support. Nancy Scimeca

**Nancy & Peter Scimeca**  
45 Seaview Avenue  
Norwalk, CT 06855  
(203) 858-7454

March 16, 2009

**Thomas P. Gaffey, Co-Chair**  
**Andrew M. Fleishmann, Co-Chair**  
Education Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Room 3100  
Hartford, CT 06106

**Regarding : Raised Bill # 6666, Section 7**

An act requiring School Districts to utilize Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA) when an Individual Education Plan (IEP) includes Applied Behavior Analytic services (ABA) as part of a student's special education.

Dear Co-Chair Gaffey and Fleishmann:

We are the parents of a child very affected by autism and are very **in favor of raised bill #6666, Section 7 and ask "you to please support it as well."** As typical children are provided a free appropriate public education so should children that are challenged by autism. If it is deemed appropriate for a child to have an Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) program according to their Individual Education Plan (IEP), they should be provided a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) (A BCBA is an individual who is educated in directing an ABA program.) A well directed ABA program (one directed by a BCBA) has helped teach our son the things most people take for granted.

I think it is important to note that **this bill is "not" forcing a one-size fits all approach** as might be misinterpreted by the summary statement. **To the contrary**, it is just moving in the direction of having a Board Certified Behavior Analyst direct an Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) program in cases where ABA is deemed appropriate in the child's Individual Education Plan (IEP).

Please pass this bill as children like mine need to be taught in the most appropriate way possible in order for them to have some kind of an independent life when their parents are no longer able to protect, care

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for, and assist them on a daily basis. It is hard to imagine the challenges these children and their families face everyday of their life. For the children not to receive an appropriate education is deplorable and unimaginably painful for the families involved. Our heart is broken everyday, please try to ease the burden and give children with autism, in need of ABA services, what all children deserve a non-discriminating, free appropriate public education.

Thank you for your time and hopefully your support.

Very sincerely yours,

Nancy and Peter Scimeca